

## **Beyond Tuition: The "Ins and Outs" of College Affordability**

**Sunday, September 21, 3:45-4:45 (Cincinnati)**

### **Discussion Leaders:**

**King Alexander, President, Murray State University**

**Ronald G. Eaglin, President, Morehead State University**

**Joe L. McCormick, Executive Director, Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority**

**John P. Davis, Student Member, Council on Postsecondary Education (moderator)**

**Purpose:** As institutional governing boards set tuition rates each year, they must strike a delicate balance among sometimes conflicting goals: 1) the need to increase the state's educational attainment rate by enrolling more students in college, 2) the need to generate the revenue necessary to provide high-quality academic programs and services, and 3) the need to provide financial access to economically disadvantaged students. This session will explore the issue of college affordability in a broader context than the "sticker price" of tuition and fees. Discussion will focus on the combination of educational costs and pricing that affect a student's financial ability to enroll and stay in college and the role the federal government, state, and institutions play in this complex issue.

### **Key Partners:**

**Board of Student Body Presidents**

**Council on Postsecondary Education**

**Donors, Foundations, Granting Agencies**

**Federal Government**

**Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority**

**Kentucky Higher Education Student Loan Corporation**

### **Key Questions Board Members Should Ask:**

**What student financial aid programs are available for students at my institution?**

**How do federal student financial aid policies affect decisions at my institution on tuition and fees? How does it affect state student financial aid?**

**In making decisions on tuition rates, housing, and other services at my institution, what factors should I consider?**

**\* What impact does student financial aid have on minority enrollment and retention?**

**As my institution makes decisions about tuition rate increases, does my board consider the impact on financially needy students, particularly whether they have access to institutional aid funds or less costly alternatives?**

**What are the pricing factors that influence a person's decision to enroll? To stay in or leave school?**

**What impact will the tuition rates we set have on quality?**

### **Resource Materials in Your Conference Packet:**

**Excerpts from "Student Financial Aid in Kentucky," presentation to the Interim Joint Committee on Education, September 8, 2003, by Dr. Joe L. McCormick, Executive Director, KHEAA**